

his religious practice . . . nor shall any person, otherwise competent, be deemed incompetent as a witness, or juror, on account of his religious belief; provided, he believes in the existence of God, and that under His dispensation such person will be held morally accountable for his acts, and be rewarded or punished therefor either in this world or in the world to come."

Virginia: Article 1, sections 11 and 16: "That religion or the duty which we owe to our Creator, and the manner of discharging it, can be directed only by reason and conviction, not by force or violence; and, therefore, all men are equally entitled to the free exercise of religion, according to the dictates of conscience; and that it is the mutual duty of all to practice Christian forbearance, love, and charity towards each other . . . all men shall be free to profess and by argument to maintain their opinions in matters of religion, and the same shall in nowise diminish, enlarge, or affect their civil capacities . . . it shall be left free to every person to select his religious instructor, and to make his support such private contract as he shall please."

South Carolina: Article 1, section 2: "The general assembly shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof . . ."

Last among them, the State of Georgia: Article 1, section 1, paragraph 4: "No inhabitant of this state shall be molested in person or property or be prohibited from holding any public office or trust on account of religious opinions."

These constitutions are still in effect in each of these States today. All speak of the exceptions on maintaining the peace and safety of each State.

Forever—forever—be encouraged. That is the way it was phrased. Is that where we stand today? Shall religious freedom, the hallmark of Columbia's shores, continue to be forever encouraged or do we who are so humbly honored to serve in these Chambers now just step aside and see the indispensable supports of religion and morality knocked from under our foundation?

Madam Speaker, I cannot be silent. Since I was 18 years of age, I have pledged to support and defend the Constitution of this great Republic. I have been moved by conscience and dictates to speak out against the coercion of people of faith who are being discriminated against because they merely hold to the laws of nature and nature's God.

Our institutions, once based on the Creator of life, have now appointed themselves to usurp the authority of God, who is the author of life, marriage, and family. The most elemental sovereign unit, our families, has been destroyed by our foolish decisions.

We are told instead by those of us sworn to uphold the law that murder is not murder, marriage is not marriage, and family is not family. We have allowed constitutional constructs to kill a child and call it a choice.

We have seen discreet behaviors and private sexual preferences promoted to public display while what is constitutionally guaranteed to be able to express—religion—is now being publicly prohibited. This Nation, at its highest level, has taken a position against God.

Is it possible, if that be the case, that we can form a more perfect union? Can we establish justice absent the giver of law? Can domestic tranquility be ensured that when we abandon His precepts? Can we provide for a common defense absent a mighty fortress and an unflinching bulwark?

How do we promote the general welfare when every American is unanchored, adrift to do what seems right in his own eyes? Do we suppose that we can secure the blessings of liberty without Him? Can those of our posterity expect to obtain His blessing without acknowledging His existence?

So, Madam Speaker, like our forebears, I cannot be silent. My faith directs that I act with love and civility in a gentlemanly manner. As a warrior on battlefields, I have seen the worst that human beings have to offer.

But my optimism is secured by eternal hope and everlasting truth. My conscience speaks to God's eternal Being. So I am without excuse. His love and mercy cannot be separated from those that answer His call.

I take solace in the words of Christ when He encourages: "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in Heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Like the Founders of our Nation and Framers of our great Constitution, I speak with many as a Representative in this august body "with a firm reliance on the protections of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor."

So, Madam Speaker, I will stand with Joshua when he said: "And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve . . . But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

I stand with the Apostle Paul when he said: "Putting away falsehood, let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor, for we are members of one another. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."

So I ask America: Who will stand with me?

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia). Under the

Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it is inspiring to hear my friend, Mr. RUSSELL, speak such inspiring words. It is interesting that the book from which he kept quoting is the best-seller book of all time and also happens to be the most quoted book in U.S. history here in both the House and the Senate.

There was a time when most legislators felt it was helpful in getting legislation passed if they had a verse of Scripture from the Bible that supported their position.

Then we arrive at the point today where, if someone in Congress makes the statement in quoting Jesus Himself when He discussed marriage and divorce and was asked about it, that He, God, made male and female. Haven't you read? Don't you understand He created male and female?

So you would have to believe, if you supported the agenda that was exhibited today, that Jesus didn't know what He was talking about because God not only created male and female, He created a lot of question marks, like the cartoon that somebody did of a doctor holding a newborn and the mother asks, "What did I have?" and the doctor says, "The baby hasn't decided yet."

We have come so far. We thought we had advanced so far. Yet, as Solomon said: "There is nothing new under the sun." I know Justice Ginsburg was talking about same-sex marriage when she said: Well, we just know so much more now than we used to know.

In some ways—but in the nature of human nature, things haven't changed. Things from 3,000 years ago, just as Abraham Lincoln said in quoting Scripture in his second inaugural, are just as true today as they were 3,000 years ago or 2,000 years ago. It is why Lincoln quoted them.

But when we get to the place as a Nation that truth is not important, everything is relative, and there is no absolute, unqualified, black-and-white justice or injustice, then our prisons fill up.

You have more people committing suicide than ever. You have more people using drugs and trying to escape by using drugs. You have all kinds of problems in schools and in society. Things are turned upside down because a society loses its way, says there is no absolutes and everything is relative.

But as C.S. Lewis pointed out, what led him from being an atheist to believing in God was in poking fun at Christians and saying: Why don't you just admit it. Wouldn't it just be easier to admit that there cannot be a just God when there is so much injustice in the world?

After doing that for years, this brilliant man finally realized: If there were no just God, if there were no absolute-in-the-universe standard of justice and injustice, right and wrong, if that

standard did not exist, then I would have no way of knowing whatsoever that injustice even existed.

As he illustrated, if a man is blind from birth, then he would not ever know what light was like. If there were no absolute standard of justice in the universe, we could never know when there was injustice. We just wouldn't know the difference.

□ 1230

But there is that standard. And as he points out, although some have a more heightened understanding of justice and injustice, of fairness and unfairness, and some of those standards differ, it doesn't mean the standards don't exist any more than the fact that some people can hit a musical note more closely than others. And just because somebody doesn't hit it exactly the same does not mean the music does not exist.

So we arrive at all these massive problems, and we are told the cure for the problems of society is if we start letting more people out of prison much sooner. And then people misrepresent and mischaracterize the reason why people are in prison in order to justify having a massive prison break that is authorized by the President of the United States. He is already authorizing prison breaks from Guantanamo Bay and is continuing to do that.

There is an article from the National Review by Sean Kennedy this week. The subtitle is, "The Truth About the Sentencing Reform Act is Scary, and Not a Reason to Support It." The title is, "Our Prisons Are Crowded Because We Have a Lot of Criminals." The article points out, "mandatory minimums are for real bad guys."

In Texas, as in many States, we have what we call ranges of punishment. If you do something wrong—you commit a felony, for example—then, depending on how serious that has been judged to be—it could be a State jail felony, a third-degree felony, a second-degree felony, or a first-degree felony, being the most serious. Well, actually, a capital felony would be the most serious, where the death penalty is authorized under certain, very strict conditions. But for noncapital, there is a range of punishment.

For example, a third-degree, minimum of 2 years, maximum of 10 years; second-degree, minimum of 2 years, maximum of 20 years; first-degree, minimum of 5 years, maximum of life or 99 years.

Some say we should not have those minimums, and certainly not a mandatory minimum that says you can't go below this point. For some of us, you are saying we have got to get rid of the bottom of the range.

But as we saw, and with the circumstances that motivated the original sentencing guidelines in Federal court 30 years or so ago, we had Federal judges appointed for life, completely unaccountable, that would face some heinous, despicable act, and then

give a very light slap on the wrist. So Congress came back and said, look, we are going to have to have some sentencing guidelines and keep judges within these guidelines. There was nothing wrong with that, as long as you give a judge at least some ability to discriminate between more serious and less serious, some ability to use judicial decisionmaking.

Over time, we have seen the serious crime rates go down. Murders, assaults, rapes, a lot of those numbers have gone down for some time. They were a result not of society becoming more lawful and concerned, but actually just enforcing the law more strictly. Society has taken a turn for the worse as we have continued to say through the media, through entertainment, and through Congress everything is relative, there are no absolutes.

Well, the Founders knew there were some absolutes. They knew the only way we could ever be considered to have rights that government could not take is to make clear that our rights do not come from the government. The government is the protector of the rights that came from our Creator. Once people decide your rights are given by the government, then obviously the government can take them away. But if those rights come from our Creator, as our Founders made very clear in the Declaration of Independence, then the government is supposed to protect them and not let anyone take them away.

That is why it was a bit heart-breaking to hear the President say—I believe he was in Hawaii, but saying this week—oh, no. He was in a foreign country at the time. But he was explaining that, in the United States, we have these founding documents, and they indicate that we are endowed with certain unalienable rights. He went ahead and rewrote—actually, omitted—the most important words of that line in the Declaration, not where it just said we are endowed with certain unalienable rights, but we are endowed by our Creator. He just failed to mention "endowed by our Creator." Maybe it bothers him to say that, I don't know, but he left it out. And there is the problem: when people who are in leadership of the government of the United States think that they are the source of their rights.

The oral argument in the Little Sisters of the Poor case should have gotten more notoriety than they got because some of the positions taken by President Obama's attorneys were absolutely outrageous. The indications basically were that the government can tell, potentially even a church, which religious beliefs you can practice and which you are not allowed to practice. The government has that right, which would mean those rights didn't come from our Creator; they came from the government. So the government giveth and the government will take away, which makes it very consistent with what the President just

said in the last few days in eliminating that our rights were endowed by our Creator.

There was no accident in the first part of the Bill of Rights, the First Amendment, having to do with religious liberty: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." They knew if that freedom is abridged in any way, the rest of them will not matter.

Once the government, for example, recognizes secular humanism as the official religion of the United States, then it can dictate to people of all faiths exactly what they can believe and disbelieve. That is exactly what has happened.

There is a prior Supreme Court case that, in the footnotes, lists the different religions in the United States. Secular humanism was one of them. Secular humanism does not recognize a creator.

There has been so much misinformation and miseducation of our young people. People were told that Ben Franklin didn't believe in God. You have to be totally fraudulent in your representation of Benjamin Franklin to tell any student that, when he said in his own words—which were later illustrated in his own handwriting exactly what he said when he spoke in 1787, the end of June, to the Constitutional Convention imploring them that they needed to be praying—when he told them:

We have been going nearly 5 weeks with more noes than ayes on virtually every vote. How has it happened, sir, that we have not once thought of humbly applying to the Father of Lights to illuminate our understandings? In the beginning of the contest with Great Britain, when we were sensible of danger, we had daily prayer in this room for the Divine Protection. Our prayers, sir, were heard, and they were graciously answered.

He went on and eventually said:

I have lived, sir, a long time.

He was 80 years old. He had gout. He had arthritis very bad. He was overweight. He had trouble getting up and down.

He said:

And the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid? We have been assured, Sir, in the sacred writings that "except the Lord build, they labor in vain that build it."

That is the basis on which this Nation was built. We were endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights.

Ben Franklin knew what the Declaration of Independence said. It was Adams who told Jefferson, basically: You do the first draft. In essence: You are the best writer we have. It was Adams that Jefferson showed the first draft to, and then they both showed it to Franklin. Apparently, Franklin made some little interlineations. It

was brought up for debate, and some things were knocked out.

He knew exactly what was important in that Declaration that would stand as the building foundation for this Nation for our rights. When that foundation is cracked, when parts of it are eliminated, the building on which it stands would no longer stand. That is the kind of erosion that has occurred.

When the Federal Government of the United States can tell the Little Sisters of the Poor—these incredibly ethical, loving, caring, giving women, who devoted their lives to helping others, far more than anybody in this city in government—and people in this city would tell them, no, you cannot practice your religious beliefs because we are secular humanists, and we will tell you you cannot believe and practice what the Bible tells you.

Of course, Moses said it came from God. That is why he is right up there as the only full-face image in this whole room of lawgivers, considered the greatest lawgivers of all time. Moses is the only full-face, because he was considered for most of our history to be the greatest lawgiver of all time.

This is the guy that says it is coming from God, but a man shall leave his mother and father, a woman shall leave her home, and the two will become one flesh. And when Jesus was asked about it, he said: Haven't you read? Don't you understand? God made them male and female.

He didn't mention question marks.

These are people we need to love and encourage. The diagnostic statistical manuals for most of existence have pointed out that these are mental disorders. These are people that we are to love, encourage, and help every way we can. For among educated, compassionate people, for our civilized history, a man that didn't know which he was was pitied, loved, and encouraged. But educated people said that is basically where the word 'perverse' is most widely used.

Now we have a government that says forget what the Bible says, forget what Moses said, forget what Jesus said when he quoted Moses verbatim and then added, "What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

Even if you don't believe Jesus was part of the Holy Trinity, as our Founders did, do you really want to leave this life and potentially, whether you believe in a judge, a maker, or not, say, "Oh, I didn't think you were serious when you said those things about marriage?"

□ 1245

I didn't think you were serious. You just weren't smart enough to know that he didn't just create male and female. I really wonder how many people in this body who had the ultimate power to decide whether humanity would go forward or not, whether there was an asteroid coming or something that would end humanity on Earth as dinosaurs were ended at one time—

okay. We have a spaceship that can—as Matt Damon did in the movie—plant a colony somewhere. We can have humans survive this terrible disaster about to befall.

If you could decide what 40 people you would put on the spacecraft who would save humanity, how many of those would be same-sex couples?

You are wanting to save humankind for posterity—basically, a modern-day Noah. You have that ability to be a modern-day Noah. You can preserve life.

How many same-sex couples would you take from the animal kingdom and from humans to put on the spacecraft to perpetuate humanity and the wild-life kingdom?

That is why it has been called part of the natural law, natural law given by the Creator; but when we continue to abolish the first words of the Bill of Rights—the First Amendment—and we continue to prohibit the free exercise of religion, we don't have much longer to go.

Jonathan Cahn has a great book—interesting. The dialogue could be a little stronger, but "The Harbinger," and the more recent one, "The Mystery of the Shemitah Unlocked," really are thought-provoking even if you are a secular humanist. He makes the comparison that the United States, just as the Founders said, was founded by the grace of God and as an instrument to bless the world.

Even for those who have not recognized the exceptional nature of the United States, it is still a fact that you can't find nations throughout history that have done what this one has, where we have sent our best and brightest and our most valuable commodity—American blood, sweat, toil—and fought for the freedom of others. We have fought to protect others, not just ourselves. You don't find nations through history that did that. This Nation had because they believed there was a higher power. They believe our rights come from our Creator, and we have an obligation to that same Creator.

This Nation has spread goodness around the world despite those who would say otherwise. It has happened. We have been the most generous, charitable, helping, loving nation in the history of the world. We have more opportunities and more assets per individual than even Solomon's Israel. We have been blessed beyond measure.

Jonathan Cahn makes the comparison to the ninth chapter of Isaiah, where at that point, long after Saul and long after David and Solomon, we come to 732 B.C. By that time, Israel is divided into two parts—the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah. The southern kingdom of Judah is where Jerusalem was. Jonathan Cahn draws the parallel, which is actually scary when you start looking at the things that actually are parallel to that time.

God is telling Isaiah: Look, the people whom I have blessed—I have pro-

vided more than anyone else—have turned away from me; so I allowed the Assyrians to come in and attack and harm them. I pulled back the hand of protection.

Back in those days, the Assyrians were known as the true fathers of terrorism. They came in and attacked and did the strange thing of going back to Assyria.

God is telling Isaiah: I have given them a warning to turn back to me.

I know that for 90 days, churches all over America were packed after 9/11. Basically, we saw people say: Never mind, God. We don't have to worry anymore. We have got this.

God said: They didn't turn back to me. I am going to let them go.

Ten years later, he allowed the Assyrians to come in and wipe them out. The southern kingdom, where Jerusalem was, continued to turn away from him. Then, over 100 years later, he allowed them to be attacked as a warning. They didn't heed the warning. Now, they got about 19 years before God withdrew his hand of protection and allowed the children of Israel to be taken into exile, and the nation of Israel ceased to exist. The northern kingdom and the southern kingdom of Judah ceased to exist because they wouldn't turn back.

If Jonathan Cahn is accurate in that comparison—well, we are beyond 10 years since that warning. Maybe people believe there is a God and believe as our Founders did and as Ben Franklin said in his talking about the Bible, in quoting it, and as Jefferson did in the quote that is still engraved in his memorial: that he trembles for our country when he realizes God is just, but he is not going to remain silent forever—well, the southern kingdom got 19 years after their warning, and then God let them go.

Tough times are upon us. We have a President who has now got an agenda to release more murderers, killers, haters of America to go forth and continue to kill and murder and hate Americans. I mean, I know some people are saying: But it has been 15 years; they have got to be released.

No. The way it has always worked among civilized nations when it has come to prisoners of war is, when someone declared war on a nation or on a people, and when some of those warriors were captured, they were held in a civil manner; they were held until those at war said: We are no longer at war.

Then the prisoners were released unless they had committed war crimes for which they could be tried. At any time in the last 15 years, all of them could have been released—unless war crimes had been committed—if their friends, their allies, had said: Okay. We are the Muslim Brotherhood, we are radical Islam, and we are no longer at war with the Great Satan, the United States. We want peace. We won't be terrorizing and attacking you and trying to destroy your way of life anymore. We are done.

That is when they cease the violence against the United States. We can release the prisoners unless war crimes have been committed. Then at that point, as in Nuremberg, you try them for their war crimes. This President is jumping the gun. They are still at war.

Muslim leaders in the Middle East and Africa have asked me: Why is it you don't understand that radical Islamists, the Muslim Brotherhood, have been at war with you since 1979, and you are helping them? Iran is the greatest supporter of terrorism. You are helping them more than you are willing to help us. What is wrong with you?

The answer is: We have turned away from the Creator, the source of our rights and our blessings.

I believe God exists. For those who think that maybe he does, maybe they are agnostic.

If God exists, the question is: Does he love us more than he loved Jerusalem?

Because, if he doesn't, it is doubtful we have more than 4 or 5 years to go.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO DECLARE A RECESS ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2016, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING IN JOINT MEETING HIS EXCELLENCY NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it may be in order at any time on Wednesday, June 8, 2016, for the Speaker to declare a recess, subject to the call of the Chair, for the purpose of receiving in joint meeting His Excellency Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 55 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, May 27, 2016, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5502. A letter from the Director, Issuances Staff, Office of Policy and Program Development, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Classes of Poultry [Docket No.: FSIS-2015-0026] (RIN: 0583-AD60) received May 23, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5503. A letter from the Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Rural

Development, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Guaranteed Loanmaking and Servicing Regulations (RIN: 0570-AA85) received May 24, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5504. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Air Plan Approval; ME; Control of Volatile Organic Compound Emissions from Fiberglass Boat Manufacturing and Surface Coating Facilities [EPA-R01-OAR-2015-0801; A-1-FRL-9946-94-Region 1] received May 25, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5505. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — EPAAR Clause for Level of Effort — Cost-Reimbursement Contract [EPA-HQ-OARM-2012-0478; FRL-9946-47-OARM] received May 25, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5506. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of California; Revised Format of 40 CFR Part 52 for Materials Incorporated by Reference [CA130-NBK; FRL-9942-49-Region 9] received May 25, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5507. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's intent to sign an agreement between the Department of Defense of the United States of America and the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Estonia, Transmittal No. 15-16, pursuant to Sec. 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act, and Executive Order 13637; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5508. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule — Prevailing Rate Systems; Abolishment of the Newburgh, NY, Appropriated Fund Federal Wage System Wage Area (RIN: 3206-AN26) received May 16, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5509. A letter from the Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Rules of Practice and Procedure; Adjusting Civil Money Penalties for Inflation (RIN: 3052-AD16) received May 25, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

5510. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2015-1277; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-155-AD; Amendment 39-18459; AD 2016-07-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 17, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5511. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Surety Guarantees, Small Business Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Surety Bond Guarantee Program; Miscellaneous Amendments (RIN: 3245-AG70) received May 23, 2016,

pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Small Business.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 4166. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to provide specific credit risk retention requirements to certain qualifying collateralized loan obligations; with an amendment (Rept. 114-596). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 4620. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to exempt certain commercial real estate loans from risk retention requirements, and for other purposes (Rept. 114-597). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina:

H.R. 5336. A bill to require Members of the House of Representatives to post information on their official public websites on the costs of trips taken by Members for which expenses were paid by the Department of Defense, the Department of State, or other offices of the House of Representatives, to direct the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives to maintain an online clearinghouse on its official public website of all such information for all Members, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. O'ROURKE (for himself, Mr.

COFFMAN, Miss RICE of New York, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 5337. A bill to ensure that an individual who is transitioning from receiving medical treatment furnished by the Secretary of Defense to medical treatment furnished by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs receives the pharmaceutical agents required for such transition; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. KATKO (for himself, Mr.

MCCAUL, Mr. KEATING, Mr. KING of New York, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. DONOVAN, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. JOYCE, and Mr. DOLD):

H.R. 5338. A bill to reduce passenger wait times at airports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. PRICE of North Carolina (for himself and Mr. ISSA):

H.R. 5339. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to clarify and expand Federal criminal jurisdiction over Federal contractors and employees outside the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself, Mr.

DOLD, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi):

H.R. 5340. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to ensure that revenues collected from passengers as aviation security fees are used to help finance the costs of aviation security screening by repealing a requirement that a portion of such fees be